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11. The semisubmersible vessel according to claim 20 wherein the at least four columns further comprise a second vertical partition transverse to the first vertical partition and which lines in the same plane as a vertical interior partition in either the starboard or port section of the ring pontoon.

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12. A semisubmersible vessel comprising:
(a) a superstructure deck;
(b) a ring pontoon having forward, aft, starboard and port sections;
(c) the superstructure deck is supported by at least four columns located near the forward and aft ends of the starboard and port sections of the ring pontoon; and
(d) the vertical centerline of each of the at least four columns is located inward of both the axial centerline of the port section of the ring pontoon and the axial centerline of the starboard section of the ring pontoon.

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13. The semisubmersible vessel according to claim 12, wherein each of the at least four columns includes a first vertical centerline partition lying in the same plane as a side of either the starboard or port section of the ring pontoon.

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14. The semisubmersible vessel according to claim 13, wherein the first interior vertical partition in each of the at least four columns is formed as an extension of the side of either the starboard or port section of the ring pontoon.

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15. The semisubmersible vessel according to claim 12, wherein the at least four columns further comprise a second vertical partition transverse to the first vertical partition and which ~~lines~~ ^{lies} in the same plane as a vertical interior partition in either the forward or aft section of the ring pontoon.

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16. The semisubmersible vessel according to claim 12, in which the outer perimeter of the ring pontoon forms an octagon.